

Message Text

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APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN
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TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SEDU, SA, US

SUBJECT: EDUCATION EVALUATION PROPOSAL

1. AT RECENT JOINT COMMISSION MEETING SAUDI DELEGATION REQUESTED A FORMAL EVALUATION OF THEIR HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM. DR. AL AL-SHAYKH REMAINED IN U.S. AFTER THE MEETING TO DISCUSS THIS AND OTHER PROJECTS WITH HEW OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF UNIVERSITIES AND HIGHER EDUCATION ASSOCIATIONS.

2. AS A RESULT, HEW HAS DEVELOPED THE PROJECT PROPOSAL OUTLINED BELOW.

3. THIS PROPOSAL PROVIDES FOR EVALUATION OF: (A) THE ACADEMIC STRUCTURE AND FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION, WITH EMPHASIS ON AN EVALUATION OF MEDICAL EDUCATION; (B) THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE
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UNIVERSITY SYSTEM, INCLUDING COSTS AND EFFICIENCY; AND

(C) THE POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND THE UNIVERSITIES, INCLUDING THE POTENTIAL ROLE OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEMS.

4. IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE TEAM MEMBERS WILL LEAVE FOR SAUDI ARABIA ABOUT THE END OF APRIL FOR A PERIOD OF APPROXIMATELY FOUR WEEKS. ON ARRIVAL IN SAUDI ARABIA, THE TEAM MEMBERS WILL WORK DIRECTLY WITH THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF UNIVERSITIES WITH THEIR ACTIVITIES BEING COORDINATED BY DR. AL AL-SHAYKH, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE COUNCIL. THE TEAM MEMBERS WILL INDIVIDUALLY OR COLLECTIVELY TRAVEL WITHIN SAUDI ARABIA TO SITES AGREED BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND DR. AL AL-SHAYKH.

5. ON RECEIPT OF APPROVAL OF THIS PROPOSAL, THE TEAM WILL MEET IN WASHINGTON TO DEVELOP A LIST OF INQUIRIES TO BE SENT TO THE SUPREME COUNCIL. INFORMATION WOULD THEN BE COLLECTED BY THE SAG FROM THE INSTITUTIONS IN ADVANCE OF THE TEAM VISIT TO FACILITATE THE TEAM'S WORK. IF TIME PERMITS THE MATERIAL SHOULD BE TRANSMITTED TO THE TEAM LEADER FOR STUDY BY THE MEMBERS BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE FROM THE UNITED STATES.

6. ON RETURN FROM SAUDI ARABIA THE TEAM WILL WORK FOR TWO WEEKS ON THE REPORT OF THEIR FINDINGS AND WILL MEET AGAIN IN WASHINGTON, D.C. TO FINALIZE THE REPORT FOR SUBMISSION TO THE SAG.

7. PROPOSED TEAM MEMBERS ARE: DR. LEO F. CAIN, PRESIDENT CALIFORNIA STATE COLLEGE; MR. D. F. FINN, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY BUSINESS OFFICERS (UNIVERSITY COSTS AND MEASURES); DR. ABDUL KHAN (TEAM LEADER), OFFICE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY, DHEW (ACADEMIC PLANNING AND RESEARCH, ECONOMICS OF HIGHER EDUCATION); DR. STANLEY MARSHALL, PRESIDENT, FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY (EVALUATION OF UNIVERSITY SYSTEMS, PHYSICS AND SCIENCE EDUCATION); DR. GEORGE ROSE, PROFESSOR OF PHYSIOLOGY AND BIOPHYSICS, GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE (EVALUATION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEDICAL EDUCATION); DR. WILLIAM SHANNON, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES (JUNIOR COLLEGES AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION).

8. THE ESTIMATED COST OF THE PROPOSED EVALUATION EFFORT IS AS FOLLOWING: TRAVEL, 11,500; LOCAL TRANSPORTATION (ESTIMATED), 1,000; PER DIEM, 8,400;

REIMBURSABLE SALARIES ON HONORARIA, 38,540; REIMBURSABLE BENEFITS, 550; TOTAL, 59,990. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT ANY INCREASE IN PER DIEM RATES WILL NECESSITATE ADDITIONAL FUNDS. ANY OVERESTIMATE OF ACTUAL EXPENSES WILL, OF

COURSE, BE REIMBURSED TO THE SAG.

9. REQUEST EMBASSY FORWARD THIS PROPOSAL TO DR. SOLAIM AND DR. AL AL-SHAYKH. IF APPROVED, REQUEST SAG FORWARD A CHECK FOR 59,990, VIA THE EMBASSY, TO DEPUTY FOR SAUDI ARABIAN AFFAIRS, TREASURY. CHECK SHOULD BE EARMARKED FOR SAUDI ARABIAN TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT TRUST ACCOUNT NO. 20X6423. INGERSOLL

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